

Regular Borough Council Meeting

January 4, 2021

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Souderton Borough Council, held on the above date, was called to order by President Brian K. Goshow at 7:00 p.m. Council President Brian Goshow noted that this in-person meeting is also available for Borough Council and the public to access through Zoom to monitor and make public comment. The Borough Council meeting was attended by the following members and staff:

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| President Brian K. Goshow | Councillor Edward Huber |
| Vice-President Julie Munden | Mayor John R. Reynolds |
| Councillor Donna Rogers | Junior Councillor Nick Mancini |
| Councillor Ned Leight (via Zoom) | |
| Councillor Richard Godshall (Zoom) | Solicitor Robert R. Bricker |
| Councillor Daniel Yocum | Borough Manager P. Michael Coll |
| Councillor Matt Mscichowski | Police Chief James P. Leary |
| Councillor Daryl Littlefield | Public Works Director Steven Coll |

The invocation was given by Borough Manager P. Michael Coll, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Council President Brian Goshow noted that Vice-President Julie Munden is coordinating Zoom access this evening. The meeting is being recorded and will be available to view through the Borough website.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the December 7, 2020 Regular Borough Council Meeting, which was the only meeting held by Borough Council during the month of December.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 Regular Monthly Borough Council meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

Mayor John R. Reynolds welcomed the beginning of a new year, which is encouraging with the COVID vaccine distribution, but the community must remain vigilant with social distancing and please continue to wear a mask. Mayor Reynolds hopes to see the return of normalcy by mid-year.

Police Chief James Leary complemented the efforts of the Public Works Department with the recent snow event. There were a few minor calls handled by the department during the storm.

Borough Solicitor Robert Bricker circulated his monthly report to Borough Council. The Borough Solicitor completed all required documentation for approval to obtain a Tax Anticipation Loan for the 2021 calendar year. The Borough Solicitor reviewed the proposed Employment Agreement with the Police Chief. The Solicitor reviewed further

correspondence and reports concerning excessive discharge loadings from the Leidy's facility on Cherry Lane.

Steven Coll, as Emergency Management Coordinator, provided a brief update on the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that vaccine distribution is beginning in Montgomery County.

Public Works Director Steven Coll reported that leaf collection was completed prior to the snowfall. There were actually three snow events during December, amounting to approximately 6 inches of snow. A flash snow event and another brief snow event required salting. The measurable snow event required salting and plowing. Monthly brush and Christmas Tree collections will begin this week.

Borough Manager Michael Coll reviewed the meeting schedule. The Souderton Planning Commission will be meeting on Wednesday, January 6th, primarily discussing the Berkeley Court development plans. The next meeting of Borough Council will be on Monday, January 18, 2021. Borough Council agreed to retain just one joint work session on the third Monday of each month through 2021.

The Agenda for the January 4, 2021 Borough Council meeting begins with the formal appointment of Brian A. Newhall to serve as our next Chief of Police. The appointment also includes formal approval of an Employment Agreement between the Borough and Police Chief Brian Newhall. Resolutions have been prepared for formal consideration to waive the member contributions to the Police Pension Plan and to reduce member contributions from 5% to 3% for the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan. The action is only for the 2021 calendar year, and the Budget reflects this action. Bids were advertised for the disposal of bio solids, or dewatered sludge, from the Souderton Waste Water Treatment Plant. The plant produces bio solids that are below the 20% minimum requirement to store for land application. Contractors must immediately land apply the sludge from our plant at approved sites, but weather and ground conditions will restrict a majority of opportunity to dispose in this fashion. The prior contracts disposed of the sludge at mine reclamation sites, which is no longer available. The best option under the current constraints is to revert back to sludge disposal at a landfill. The bid prices reflect a lower price per ton for landfill disposal as compared to land application. A motion has been recommended to award the disposal contract to Solid Waste Services, Inc., (J. P. Mascaro and Sons) through December 31, 2023. The last item of business concerns various appointments.

Councillor Julie Munden reported that she submitted four articles for Souderton Borough for publication in the new Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce newsletter which is expected to be distributed at the end of February. Councillor Donna Rogers assisted in writing the article concerning the appointment of Police Chief Brian Newhall.

Council President Brian Goshow reported on the announcement from State Representative Steven Malagari and Senator Maria Collett that the Borough was approved to receive a \$1,000,000 Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant to construct the new Public Works facility on our Cherry Lane property. This was a long awaited project for Souderton Borough and we hope to begin construction in 2022.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of December, 2020.

GENERAL FUND

21 st Century Media	\$1,670.36	Univest VISA	\$118.27
Airgas National Carbonation	166.43	Univest VISA	15.89
Allan Myers	701.08	Univest VISA	781.71
Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	4,981.15	Unum Insurance Company	1,036.49
Bergey's, Inc.	1,450.01	Verizon Wireless	120.03
Boucher and James, Inc.	2,876.00	21 st Century media	195.83
Britton Industries	149.25	Advance Auto Parts	41.46
Clemens Uniform Rental	128.87	Advanced Disposal	37,988.70
Comcast	200.44	Altek Business Systems, Inc.	722.91
Commonwealth Precast, Inc.	44.00	Assoc. of Mayors of PA	70.00
Cope's Garage, Inc.	252.41	Beatrice Kaizar	400.00
D. L. Beardsley, Ltd	259.00	Boucher and James, Inc.	6,082.65
Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit	1,096.12	Britton Industries	149.25
Fredericks Flowers	200.00	C & S Lawn and Landscape, Inc.	2,353.00
GALCO Business Communications	537.54	Clemens Uniform Rental	171.18
Generations of Indian Valley	6,000.00	Comcast	734.42
George Allen Portable Toilets	229.00	Cope's Garage, Inc.	2,640.28
Home Depot	263.20	County Fair Cleaners	355.75
ICC	145.00	CPR Heart Starters, Inc.	315.50
Independence Blue Cross	18,484.38	Davidheisers, Inc.	18.00
Jeffrey C. Lukens	262.04	Donald W. Morrison, PhD	375.00
Lawson Products, Inc.	127.66	Fellmans Pool Service, Inc.	1,580.25
Markey Paper & Packaging, Inc.	115.43	Freedom Systems Corp	49.99
Meals on Wheels of Indian Valley	6,000.00	Fromm Electric Supply Corp.	32.53
MetLife/Brighthouse Financial	6,507.81	George Allen Portable Toilets	152.00
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	166.70	Home Depot	295.85
NAPA Auto Parts	106.46	Lansdale Police Department	300.00
Nationwide Trust Company	962.85	Markey Paper & Packaging, Inc.	121.28
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	501.06	MetLife/Brighthouse Financial	4,910.97
North American Benefits Company	964.41	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	2,340.57
North Penn Goodwill Authority	48.29	Nationwide Trust Company	2,051.24
Old Dominion Brush	913.65	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	358.47
PA State Assoc. of Boroughs	1,081.00	Old Dominion Brush	436.23
PECO Energy	181.79	PA One Call System	73.50
Plasterer Equipment Co., Inc.	392.86	Petty Cash	131.20
PPL Electric Utilities	702.17	PPL Electric Utilities	1,378.28
Richter Drafting/Office Supply	278.45	Richter Drafting Office Supply	323.74
Safe City Solutions	14,150.00	Steven R. Coll	144.60
Shelly Enterprises USLBM, LLC	2.50	Suburban Propane	856.02
Souderton Ambulance Assoc.	4,500.00	Sudz In A Bucket	27.50

Souderton-Telford Main Streets	\$5,937.50	Univest VISA	\$90.19
Suburban Propane	565.04	Verizon Wireless	234.28
The Harrison Group, Inc.	310.00		
United States Treasury	43.18	Total General Fund	\$159,480.10

SEWER FUND

Altek Business Systems, Inc.	\$92.33	Clemens Uniform Rental	\$180.92
Clemens Septic Services	1,835.00	Comcast	170.37
Clemens Uniform Rental	90.46	CVX, LLC/ D & M Machine	2,953.60
D. L. Beardsley Ltd.	14.80	Environmental Service & Equip.	445.00
Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit	379.52	Essex Service Corporation	1,889.68
Derstine Company, Inc.	18,000.00	Freedom Systems Corp.	99.98
EVOQUA Water Technologies	3,758.20	H2O Solutions, Inc.	175.00
Excelsior Blower Systems, Inc.	863.92	Hangley Aronchick Segal	1,809.50
GALCO Business Communications	241.75	Home Depot	68.93
Hajoca Corporation	4,771.53	Irvin G. Tyson & Son, Inc.	780.00
Home depot	29.97	J. P. Mascaro & Sons	612.30
Independence Blue Cross	5,347.83	Jesse Baro, Inc.	9,243.33
Jesse Baro, Inc.	4,257.56	MetLife/Brighthouse Financial	184.56
Johnstone Supply	160.22	Midway Industrial Supply	11,008.99
Markey Paper & Packaging, Inc.	219.61	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	229.97
MetLife/Brighthouse Financial	184.56	Moyer Instruments	1,060.00
Midway Industrial Supply	7,688.19	Nelson Wire Rope Corporation	800.50
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	148.55	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	153.06
North American Benefits Company	250.60	NYCO Corporation	148.96
North Penn Water Authority	72.25	PPL Electric Utilities	14,175.52
P. K. Moyer & Sons, Inc.	1,060.00	Reuter & Hanney, Inc.	13,770.00
PPL Electric Utilities	12,913.40	Richter Drafting Office Supply	19.37
Precision Solutions, Inc.	177.11	Rodney Shoemaker Plumbing, Inc.	120.00
Reuter & Hanney, Inc.	10,075.00	S C Engineers, Inc.	667.00
Suburban Water Testing Labs	2,662.42	United Laboratories	1,576.71
The Harrison Group, Inc.	60.00	Univar USA, Inc.	5,588.87
Unum Insurance Company	242.76	USA Blue Book	578.28
Bearing & Drive Solutions	2,264.91	West Generator Services	129.00
Bergey's Electric, Inc.	65.00		
Cintas First Aid & Safety	75.14	Total Sewer Fund	\$146,641.99

POOL FUND

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Boucher and James, Inc.	\$2,586.37	TRM Telford Recycling Material	\$465.00
C & B Iron, Inc.	6,599.00	Boucher and James, Inc.	3,069.70
P. K. Moyer & Sons, Inc.	16,603.00	George's Tool Rental	1,037.04
Sherwin Williams	1,735.98	Trout Brothers, Inc.	5,808.00
Todd Moyer Painting	3,392.00	Total Capital Reserve Fund	\$41,296.09

LIQUID FUELS FUND

PPL Electric Utilities \$5,539.87 PPL Electric Utilities \$853.55

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, and seconded by Councillor Julie Munden, to approve the payment of bills for the month of December, 2020 as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, and seconded by Councillor Julie Munden, to approve the payment of recurring bills for the month of January, 2021 as presented. The motion was approved.

President Goshow opened the meeting for public comment as follows:

Charl Wellener, 18 N. Hunsberger Lane, expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Communications Committee for their work on the new Indian Valley newsletter. She also voiced frustration with the disrespect of Council President Brian Goshow and Councillor Edward Huber for not wearing a face mask during the public meetings.

There being no further public comment, President Brian Goshow moved to the business portion of the agenda beginning with the appointment of our next Chief of Police.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to appoint Brian A. Newhall to serve as the Chief of Police of the Souderton Police Department effective January 11, 2021. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. President Brian Goshow expressed appreciation to Councillors Julie Munden, Daryl Littlefield and Donna Rogers, along with Mayor John Reynolds for their extensive time in conducting a very successful candidate search process.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the Employment Agreement with Brian A. Newhall dated January 4, 2021. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor John R. Reynolds expressed appreciation to the members of the Souderton Police Department and neighboring departments for joining Borough Council this evening to support the appointment of Police Chief Brian Newhall. Mayor Reynolds formally introduced Police Chief Brian Newhall and administered the Oath of Office.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, and seconded by Councillor Daniel Yocum, to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 waiving member contributions to the Police Pension Plan for the 2021 calendar year. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, and seconded by Councillor Julie Munden, to adopt Resolution No. 2021-02 reducing member contributions to the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan from 5% to 3% of gross wages for the 2021 calendar year. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Daniel Yocum, and seconded by Councillor Edward Huber, to award the contract for the disposal of dewatered sludge from the Souderton Waste Water Treatment Plant to Solid Waste Services, Inc., d/b/a J. P. Mascaro & Sons, at the quoted prices as ordered through December 31, 2023. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Edward Huber, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the engagement letter dated November 4, 2020 from Styer Associates, Certified Public Accountants, to audit and prepare the general purpose financial statements for the Borough of Souderton for the year ending December 31, 2020. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Daniel Yocum, and seconded by Councillor Edward Huber, to appoint Eugene Moyer, 262 W. Chestnut Street, to serve a three year term as a member of the Souderton Zoning Hearing Board through December 31, 2023. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Donna Rogers, to appoint Michael Moffitt, 165 N. School Lane, to serve a six year term as a member of the Civil Service Commission through December 31, 2026. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Daniel Yocum, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to appoint Daniel Houser, 436 Central Avenue, to serve as Chairman of the Vacancy Board for the 2021 calendar year. The motion was approved.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary